

Remarks

Claims 1, 13, 26 and 33 have been amended, and claims 2, 8, 29, 30, 49, 60 and 61 have been canceled. Review and reconsideration in view of the amendments and remarks below are respectfully requested.

In the Advisory Action mailed on January 31, 2008, it is indicated that claims 13 and 32-34 are allowed, and that claims 8 and 30 include allowable subject matter and would be allowable if rewritten in independent form.

Accordingly, claim 1 has been amended to include the limitations of claim 8 (and intervening claim 2), and claims 8 and 2 have been canceled. Independent claim 26 has been amended to include the subject matter of claim 30 (and intervening claim 26), and claims 30 and 26 have been canceled. Independent claim 49, and associated dependent claims 60 and 61 have been canceled.

Claim 13 has been amended to change the term "around" to "across," which is believed to more accurately describe the claimed subject matter. Support for this amendment can be found, for example, in Figs. 1, 4, 5, 7 and 9. Claim 33 has been amended to add a comma for clarification.

Applicants hereby petition under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 for an extension of time of one month to respond to the outstanding Office Action.

Accordingly, it is submitted that the application is now in condition for allowance and a formal notice thereof is respectfully solicited.

It is noted that the first Office action included copies of the references submitted by the Applicants in various Information Disclosure Statements. Three foreign references, namely, FR 2,594,009, GB 2,333,949 and JP 1,0192,028 have been initialed by the Examiner, but were also struck-through. In a voice mail left for the undersigned on March 11, 2008, the Examiner confirmed that these references have in fact been considered and that a paper confirming consideration of these references has been issued.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required by this paper, or to credit any overpayment to Deposit Account 20-0809. Applicants hereby authorize the Commissioner under 37 C.F.R. §1.136(a)(3) to treat any paper that is filed

Serial No.: 10/749,760
Attorney Docket No.: 520219-299
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in this application which requires an extension of time as incorporating a request for such an extension.

Respectfully submitted,

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